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Monday, June 4, 2012

# THE BUILDING NEWS

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### Queen Elizabeth celebrates her Diamond Jubilee



Queen Elizabeth II embarks from Chelsea Harbour on the first part of their journey in The Jubilee River Pageant to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Diamond Jubilee yesterday in London, England. For only the second time in its history the UK celebrates the Diamond Jubilee of a monarch. Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II celebrates the 60th anniversary of her ascension to the throne. (see story on pg 12)

#### Clinton presses Russia to back political change in Syria

STOCKHOLM (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton urged Russia Sunday to get behind a political transition in Syria, saying President Bashar al-Assad's departure was not a precondition but should be "an outcome".

Clinton spoke to Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov by telephone at the weekend to say that Washington and Moscow needed to work together on a plan that would halt the violence and bring about political change in the country.

"In my conversation with him, I made it very clear there would be no point to any meeting unless it included all elements of Kofi Annan's (peace) plan, and that certainly means we have to focus on a path forward for a political transition," Clinton told reporters Sunday during a visit to Stockholm.

Warnings of an all-out civil war in Syria, and spill-over sectarian violence in Lebanon, have grown since the massacre last week of more than 100 civilians, many of them women and children, in the city of Houla.

The United States and other countries have blamed the attacks on militias backed by the regime, but Assad said Sunday in a speech it was part of a foreign plot to destroy the country.

Russia has resisted UN Security Council efforts to sanction the Assad regime, a longtime ally of Moscow, questioning the effectiveness of sanctions and warning that outside meddling could lead to civil war.

Clinton has sharply criticised Moscow for "propping up" the Assad regime with continued arms shipments, prompting President Vladimir Putin to defend Russia's stance in meetings with the leaders of Germany and France.

#### Don't Miss the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival 2012 this weekend

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.



**Guest celebrity chefs Guy Anderson and Jeff Mekolites** 

Beginning this coming Thursday, June 7, the Westin Aruba Resort in Palm Beach will again host one of the island's most spectacular culinary events, the 7th edition of the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival.

The three days of dinners and wine tastings starts with the famous Best Chef Competition in the Pago Pago Restuarant, this year featuring executive chefs from Promenade Restaurant, Amsterdam Manor, L.G. Smith Steak & Chop House and Windows on Aruba. They will devise elegant dishes in various categories, paired with equally elegant wines personally selected by the chefs, to be judged by a panel of experts and those attending the event. Tickets for very special epicurean experience cost \$85 pp and must be purchased in advance at the Westin concierge desk.

Friday night will showcase Aruba's up and coming talent from the island's EPI Culinary Institute. They will compete as teams to be named creators of the "Best Dish" judged by the experts from Thursday's event.

This is combined with the gala opening of the art exhibit, and a number of Aruba's finest wine companies, Arion, Pepia Est, Romar Trading, Playa Trading and Aruba Trading Company, will be offering an assortment of over 60 vintages from all corners of the globe for unlimited sampling.

Continue on pg 4





#### Informative night on Dementia at Dementie Café CasMarie was a success



Monique Ecury and Lisette Does (Dementie Cafe Cas-Marie)

The topic of dementia has received much attention of late. This is not only because of the greying society worldwide, but especially because if the impact that this syndrome has on particularly the families of the person suffering from the syndrome and much broader.

It is important for us to recognize the signs of dementia and to be aware of the advice and possibilities available once a person has been diagnosed with the syndrome of dementia. For this reason the Foundation CasMarie recently organized an encounter dubbed Dementia at Cafe CasMarie.

The last encounter was held on Wednesday May

23rd. The speaker for the ocassion was lawyer, Monique Ecury.

Monique Ecury addressed the topic of the possible judicial aspects which will be important to take into account when a person has been diagnosed as having this syndrome.

The following encounter will be on June 27th at Spirit of Aruba, Ierlandstraat 22.

The event starts a 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. The theme of the evening will be the movie: "How Dementia Influenced and Affected the relationship of a couple."

For more information, please contact telephone 569-6910 or visit their Facebook page Dementie Cafe Cas-Marie.

### Register now! Youth Leadership Conference for a Winning Attitude on Aruba

# YOUTHMAX

John MAXwell Team Youth Leadership Event

The world over young people feel insecure as to what they can accomplish. They have no notion of any specific goal for their lives, and go on living aimlessly with a barrage of temptations lurking at every turn.

Obviously not all young people's situations are the same, each takes a different direction in life, but most go through rather turbulent times. In an effort to stimulate our young people to grow into well-developed citizens, Carib-bean Mercantile Bank and Youth Max have teamed up to organize a special conference for Aruba's young people.

All young people between the ages of 14 to 18 are cordially invited to a very special "John Maxwell Team Youth Leadership Event." The legendary John

Maxwell is known worldwide for his more than 40 books and inspirational messages. John Maxwell is known to the business world as the guru on leadership. In his books he points the way to success thru leadership and how to achieve success. Representatives of John Maxwell on Aruba, Monica Kock and Ica Jones are facilitating the conference here. They will be exploring four themes, namely, "Stand Up & Be namely, "Stand Up & Be Counted," "Learning to Fail Forward to Success," "Developing a Positive Self-Image," and Developing Strong Personal Character." These themes are of utmost importance to our youth for life today and for their future.

The special youth even is scheduled for Saturday, June 9th from 2pm to 6pm in the Radisson Hotel. Because of the generosity of the CMB, the event is completely gratis to all young people. To register, please call telephone 583-4100 or send an email to:

registration@ecanv.com mentioning your name, telephone number, email, school you attend and your age.

For more information LIKE us on facebook at www.facebook.com/winningattitudearuba.

All young people ages 14 to 18 are strongly encouraged to not miss this extremely helpful and dynamic opportunity to find the best route to becoming a true leader with a "Winning Attitude!"



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### Art of Living Foundation, Aruba organizing a wonderful evening of 'Music, Mind & Meditation with Scottish musician Mary Sommerville



Art of Living Foundation, Aruba is very fortunate and

excited to bring to Aruba, Mary Somerville, a very tal-

ented harpist from Scotland, for an evening of Music, Mind and Meditation. Mary plays the Scottish harp and was brought up in the Scottish Highlands where there is a strong culture of traditional music.

Beginning her musical training at the age of five, she started playing the Scottish harp (known as the clarsach) at the age of nine. As a child Mary won many musical competitions and festivals with her harp performances as well as on the piano and violin. She is particularly known for playing relaxing, meditative music.

Mary is also a full time volunteer of the Art of Living

Foundation, a non profit, humanitarian organization. With her aim to contribute towards the foundation's goal of a violence free, stress free society, she travels worldwide organizing events and performing harp concerts.

She recently performed an instrumental piece with a local steel pan musician at the "I Meditate St. Maarten" Intercultural peace event in the Caribbean, which became the first ever known collaboration between the harp and the steel pan. She will also be performing in other Caribbean islands like Barbados and Jamaica.

Art of Living Foundation invites everyone in Aruba to

join us for a relaxing evening filled with some breathtaking music, meditation and knowledge.

Place - Hyatt Regency Resort Ball Room

Date - 9th June 2012 Time - 7 pm - 9 pm Ticket: US \$20

Tickets for this event will be available at - Chartis (American Home) Insurance, Antraco Book store, Palais Oriental (Main Street), Panache (Palm Beach Plaza) and Pearlgems (Royal Plaza Mall).

For any other information please email at aolaruba@gmail.com or call - Niti Gupta- 741 6490 / Diya Harchandrai- 737 3743

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#### Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant-now at Palm Beach Plaza



Opening night: Welcome drinks on the House



A toast to the new Queen's



Dine indoors or on the Terrace



Varella, Mama Luisa and the next generation of chefs

thentic island cuisine, has moved from Oranjestad to Palm Beach Plaza and the always popular restaurant welcomed friends and loyal patrons for a festive opening on Friday night, June 1.

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomed guests along with owner

"The Queen's" featuring au- Varella Innocencia, along with pitchers of mojitos on the house for the opening night. Friends and relatives toasted this family operation with glasses of Org-e and Hynotiq liqueur.

The Queen's may have moved to hipper new digs, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won them their popular-

Mama Luisa is still in the kitchen cooking up her famous stobas, (stews) Keshi Yena, (classic local dish) and other island delicacies, while prices are still more than reasonable. Seafood main courses range from \$14 for Catch of the Day Aruban Style to \$18 for shrimp and \$20 for a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin range from \$12 to \$16, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy bargain-priced to boot!

The charming new restaurant is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza. tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local.

**By Rosalie Klein** 



#### Don't Miss the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival 2012 this weekend

#### Continued from pg 1

Westin Executive Chief, the renowned Matt Boland is the host for the evening. Friday evening's public event is from 7:00 to 11:00 PM and tickets are a very reasonable

The final night is the eagerly anticipated "Capturing the Champagne Sparkle" gala, always a memorable meal prepared by visiting celebrity chefs, paired with Moet & Chandon and Dom Perignon champagnes. This year, Guy Anderson and Jeff Mekolites from the famed Le Cordon Bleu Culinary School in Atlanta, Georgia will prepare this exquisite five-course repast. Cost for this very exclusive, formal dress event is \$140 pp and must also be purchased in advance from the Westin



concierge desk.

Matrude Rutgers of the Westin Resort expressed her gratitude to all participating wine vendors, chefs, students and instructors of the EPI

Culinary School and art show curators Michiko Takatsu and Eduardo Valbuena of

Curators on the Go, for again contributing to this latest edition of the Aruba Wine, Food & Art Festival being a memorable and successful event.

By Rosalie Klein





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#### 'Snow White' takes bite out of N. American box office



LOS ANGELES (AFP) -"Snow White and the Huntsman" was the fairest of them all, striking North American box office gold over the weekend with a \$56.3 million debut, industry estimates showed Sunday.

Starring Charlize Theron and Kristen Stewart of "Twilight" fame, the film sees the hunstman ordered to take Snow White into the woods to be killed instead become her protector in a twist on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale.

"Snow White" knocked the comedy "Men in Black 3" off the top of the charts. The reunion of Will Smith and

Tommy Lee Jones as secret agents battling aliens living on Earth took second place after less than two weeks in theaters, with \$29.3 million, according to Exhibitor Rela-

"Men in Black 3," has total takings of \$112.3 million so far.

In third this weekend was comic book superhero blockbuster "The Avengers," pocketing \$20.3 million on its fifth weekend in theaters.

The film has become the highest-grossing movie in Walt Disney Studios' history with global earnings so far of almost \$1.4 billion, the thirdhighest total of all time.

"The Avengers" maintained its lead over the bigbudget but critically panned "Battleship," which dropped to the number four spot in its third weekend with \$4.8 million in box office receipts.

In fifth was comedian Sacha Baron Cohen's "The Dictator," with \$4.7 million on its third weekend.

"The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel," a comedic drama about British retirees in India, took in \$4.6 million for sixth place.

Keeping its seventh place

to Expect When You're Ex-

was romantic comedy "What pecting," about five interconnected couples sharing the

experience of having a baby, with \$4.4 million.



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#### TUESDAY AND FRIDAY LIVE MUSIC

waves for hours on end, some-

times speaking and even

singing on state media almost

around the clock, has become

conspicuous in his relative ab-

sence ahead of the October 7

election. The silence has fu-

eled speculation, rumors and

been very sparing in its release

of details about the president's

illness, including why he

sought treatment in ally Com-

munist Cuba when he could

have been treated here or in-

11 to register as a presidential

candidate formally -- and has

Just 40 kilometers (25

miles) away, Chavez's main

rival in the race is hard at work

against a sort of phantom foe

not said when he will do so.

Chavez, 57, has until June

deed anywhere.

And the government has

#### **International News**

#### Chavez absent as team oils campaign machine



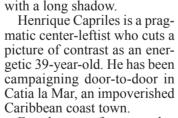
CARACAS (AFP) - In a crowded square of the biggest shantytown in Caracas, President Hugo Chavez's reelection campaign wheels are spinning. But a bit like a movie missing its star, the president is not on the trail.

Aides to the flamboyant Chavez -- Latin America's most prominent leftist leader, third consecutive six-year term -- insist that any talk of replac-

The former paratrooper has stayed largely out of public view for several recent weeks as he recovers from cancer treatment.

Chavez, who before his illness dominated national air-

who is seeking reelection to a ing him is a non-starter.



For the past four months, Capriles has been on a "listening tour" of the South American nation, going all-in for group hugs, broad smiled and underscoring that, unlike Chavez, he is there with the people.

Chavez is supposed to be the focus of the event. In fact, it is being headlined by Vice President Elias Jaua.

And for many ruling party ipporters, dressed in a sea of revolutionary red, Jaua is all they have for now.

Getting into campaign attack mode is not considered Jaua's natural forte, unlike Chavez.

But with the president sidelined in recent months, his team has had to fill the charismatic president's big shoes.



ROME (AFP) - Just 10 days after the pope's butler was arrested in an investigation into Holy See leaks, an Italian daily Sunday published fresh whistleblower letters, suggesting the scandal is far from over.

Three new documents filched from the Vatican were sent to La Repubblica by an anonymous source in another blow for the Holy See, which has played down rumours that top clerics may be orchestrating a number of informers.
"The truth can be found at

the top of the heirarchy," the source said in a letter accompanying the documents, apparently accusing one of Pope Benedict XVI's personal secretaries, Georg Gaenswein, of allowing secrets to slip out.

Gaenswein, who has access to the pope's personal study, has been passing highly secret documents to the Holy See's number two, Secretary of State Tarcisio Bertone -- some of which then ended up splashed in the media -- the whistleblower said.

"Kick out of the Vatican those who are really responsible for the scandal: Mr. Gaenswein and Cardinal Bertone," the source said, adding that the new documents it had revealed referred to "shameful events inside the Vatican."

Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi brushed off the episode as "neither surprising nor worrying" and told a news conference that the pope was

"not frightened by the situation caused by the leak of private documents."

The secret papers have lifted the lid on deep-seated venom among rival figures in the Vatican, and experts have said the leaks scandal is an attempt to unseat Bertone, who is considered by some to wield too much power.

The plot may run even deeper. According to reports, the leaks are being orchestrated by disgruntled cardinals who believe Pope Benedict XVI is weak and who have already begun preparing to get their own man elected as fu-

The documents, splashed in the Italian press and published in a recent book, have shed light on many Vatican secrets, including the Church's tax problems, child sex scandals and negotiations with hardline traditionalist rebels.

The whistleblower told La Repubblica that butler Paolo Gabriele, who was caught in possession of documents, was 'merely a scapegoat."

On Sunday, a group of supporters carrying green balloons and accompanied by members of the clergy gathered in Saint Peter's Square to pray for Gabriele.

Among many theories on the motives behind the leaks, some Vatican watchers have said the whistleblowers believe they are acting for the pope's own good, trying to rid the Church of shady members and practices.



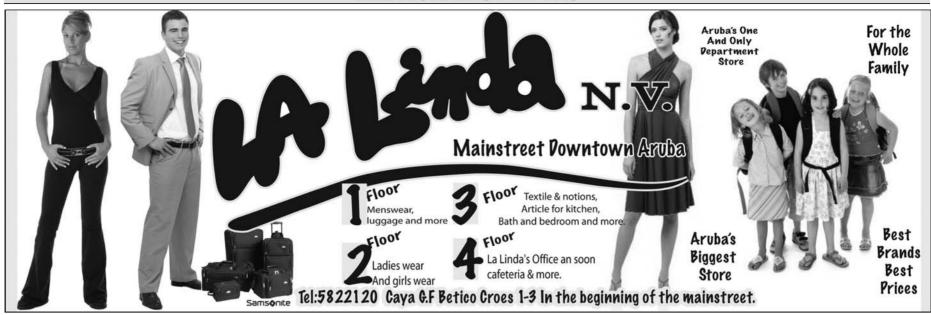
The lunar eclipse comes two weeks after the May 20 annular solar eclipse that enthralled skywatchers around the world. Solar eclipses are always accompanied by lunar eclipses, either two weeks before or two weeks after. The moon travels halfway in its orbit around the Earth in that time, forming another straight line with our planet and the sun. (In solar eclipses, the moon blots out the sun, while lunar eclipses occur when Earth's shadow covers all or part of the moon.) The same parts of the world that were treated to the May 20 "ring of fire" solar eclipse will thus be favorably placed for today's partial lunar eclipse. Much of central and western North America should get a good show, as should eastern Asia, Australia and the Pacific region. The full moon of June is known as the Strawberry Moon since it occurs during the short strawberry-harvesting season this month.



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#### **International News**

### Plane carrying 147 passengers crashes in Lagos - Nigeria



LAGOS (AFP) — A plane carrying 147 people plunged into a residential area of Nigeria's largest city Sunday, with all those aboard feared dead, an inferno blazing at the scene and a number of structures badly damaged.

And one rescue official said he believed a number of the bodies being taken away had been people killed on the ground rather than passengers.

An official with the National Emergency Management Agency said the plane had hit two buildings: a church and the two-storey residential structure.

Thick smoke rose from the area near Lagos airport and flames could be seen coming from a two-storey building. Residents said the plane had been coming in low, making a loud noise, when it slammed into the residential area.

Some residents said it appeared that the plane nosedived into the neighbourhood.

The cause of the crash was not immediately clear, though an official from Nigeria's rescue agency and an aviation official said the cockpit recorder had been located and handed over to police.

Wreckage including a detached wing could be seen in the neighbourhood as the inferno burned. Residents reported seeing bodies being taken out of the area as rescue workers rushed in and a helicopter landed.

Lagos State police spokesman Joseph Jaiyeoba told AFP the plane went down in the Iju neighbourhood on the mainland of the city where the bulk of the city's population lives.

Hundreds of residents swarmed the area to see what had happened.

"It was flying low with a lot of noise for about five minutes before it crashed into the residential area," one resident said. "It then burst into flames."

A spokesman for Nigerian airline Dana confirmed one of its planes was involved in the crash but could not immediately provide further details.

Nigeria has a spotty aviation record, though Dana has been considered to be a relatively safe domestic airline.

It began flights in November 2008 and had been operat-

ing up to 27 daily flights using a fleet of MD-83 aircraft, according to information on its website.

Its aircraft make daily flights between Abuja, Calabar, Lagos, Port Harcourt and Uyo.

This latest incident came after another plane crash on Saturday night in the capital of the nearby West African nation of Ghana, which saw a cargo plane overshoot a runway and hit a passenger bus, killing at least 10 people.

The Allied Air cargo plane had departed from Lagos and was to land in Accra.

Meanwhile Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan declared three days of national mourning yesterday.



MIAMI - George Zimmerman, right, arrived at the John E. Polk Correctional Facility in Sanford, Fla.The neighborhood watch volunteer charged with shooting dead an unarmed black teen in Florida last February was back behind bars Sunday after his bail was revoked, according to his attorney, who requested a new bond hearing. A judge on Friday ordered George Zimmerman to return to jail after prosecutors alleged that he had misled the court about having no money despite tens of thousands of dollars sitting in online fundraising accounts. Seminole County Sheriff Donald Eslinger told reporters that Zimmerman was "quiet and cooperative," as he was booked.

#### Mass protests in Egypt over Mubarak verdicts



CAIRO (AFP) - Hundreds of Egyptians occupied Cairo's Tahrir Square on Sunday after a night of rage against what they feel are lenient sentences given to ousted dictator Hosni Mubarak and his security chiefs.

A judge sentenced Mubarak, 84, and his interior minister Habib al-Adly to life in prison on Saturday for involvement in the killing of protesters during the uprising that ousted them from power last year.

Mubarak, the only autocrat toppled in the Arab Spring to be put in the dock, could have been sent to the gallows as demanded by the prosecution. He was also cleared of graft charges.

Six police chiefs were acquitted, and Mubarak's sons Alaa and Gamal had corruption charges against them dropped on a technicality, prompting protesters to take to the streets in Cairo, Alexandria and other Egyptian cities.

Both the toppled dictator's defence team and lawyers representing his victims said the life sentence verdict will be be appealed, triggering fears among protesters that he could be found innocent.

Around 20,000 people took to Cairo's iconic Tahrir Square on Saturday after the verdicts were issued.

Saturday's verdict comes just two weeks before a presidential election run-off that will pit Mubarak's former premier Shafiq against the Brotherhood's Mursi in a highly polarised race.

It is the first openly contested presidential election in any of the Arab countries swept by protests and uprisings challenging decades of autocratic rule.

#### **Health & Living**

## Watch out, new dangerous drugs have surfaced



OX

The Anti-drugs foundation of Aruba (FADA) has issued a bulletin informing the Aruban community about the new drugs that have surfaced lately and that are circulating everywhere. This information is to put everyone on the alert and to be aware of the dangers of these drugs, particularly to our youth.

Here is a list of the street names of these new drugs. FADA will continue to update the community on these new drugs and provide us with detailed information on each of these drugs. The names are::

- •OXI
- •DIFFERENT PILLS
- •MEPHEDRONE
- •COCODRILO
- •ROSEA DI DIABLO (DEVIL'S BREATH) OXI

OXI is a drug derived from the paste of cocaine and looks very much like the base of Crack.

This is a drug that is being used in the advanced phase.

A few ingredients: Laundry detergent

A chemical used in the construction business

The drug has a maroon color and originates from Brasil.

Investigation has revealed that the drug is twice as potent as Crack, which is used by street addicts and is believed to be much more damaging to the health of the user. The drug has been proven to be much more addictive and can cause the death of the user within approximately one year!

A few of the effects on the human body: the duration of its effect is for about 3 to 5 minutes. It destroys the human organs, causes critical damage to the brain, causes diarrhea and vomiting.

Apparatus used to consume this drug are: pipes, similar to how Crack or Base are used. In Brasil the Health Department has declared a state of emergency in view of the rapid increase of the use of this drug. It is a rather inexpensive drug and as a result is readily accessible to the poor folk, but it has long become the drug used by all social groups.

#### DIFFERENT PILLS

FADA advises all parents to keep all types of pills far out of the reach of children and young people, because there is a rise in the use of different pills among young people as a form of drugging themselves.

In he US they now have what they call "Pharma parties" where different prescription pills are being used in these so-called fiestas by young people to drug themselves into "highs." These

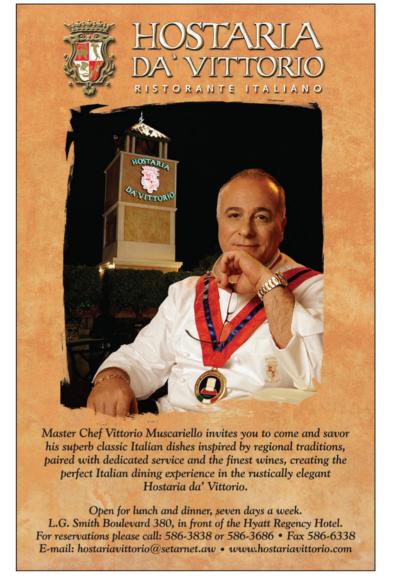


prescription pills are placed in a basket during these fiestas and the young people would reach in and pull out a handful and drink these combined with alcohol. This has become a favorite way of drugging in the US today, which is then followed with Marijuana.

FADA advocates that prevention begins at home. For this reason they want to share this information to alert parents and the community at large to beware and to simulate awareness among our young people. These drugs will only bring degradation and destruction.

For more information, contact FADA at telephone 583-29999 or 583-9610. Communication by fax is also possible on 583-4501, or via fundacionantidroga.org. Or, via facebook. FADA is located in Dakota (Tarabana) in the Campanastraat 5.

Prevention is better than cure!



### Laxative-free colonoscopy could be as effective as scope procedure



A new method of performing virtual colonoscopy using a CT scan -- which doesn't involve laxative preparation to clear the colon the night before -- may be about as effective as a standard colonoscopy at identifying the large polyps most likely to become cancerous, according to research conducted at Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women's Hospital.

The laxative-free approach resulted in detection of 91% of patients who had one or more of the riskiest lesions that were 10 mm or larger, according to Dr. Michael Zalis, director of CT colonography at MGH and lead author of the study, which was published in the Annals of Internal Medicine. "The level of performance

was very comparable to CT [virtual] colonography as well optical [scope-based] colonoscopy," he says.

Colonoscopy is a life-sav-

Colonoscopy is a life-saving procedure, identifying polyps and early-stage tumors so they can be removed before they grow and spread. But many people refuse to undergo the procedure because they don't relish having an endoscope inserted into their body, and they don't like the preparation for the procedure, which requires drinking laxatives and spending large amounts of time in the lavatory the night before.

Researchers cautioned that the procedure was performed only at three specialized centers and that other sites may not be able to do it effectively without further development. And if doctors do find polyps, you are still going to have to undergo the normal preparation so that the polyps can be removed with an endoscope.





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### Sci-Tech Venus, the planet of broken dreams



PARIS (AFP) - When Venus tomorrow eclipses Earth, an event that will not occur again for more than a century, millions of skygazers may have romantic thoughts about our closest neighbour and its twilight beauty.

But the truth is that Venus is a hell that would have surpassed even the imagination of Dante, and it has caused more grief and disappointment than any other planet in the Solar System.

Early science fiction figured Venus to be a twin to Earth, a balmy, watery home from home that was a plum target for colonisation. So when the Space Age dawned, it was only natural that the second rock from the Sun would be the first planet for humans to explore.

For a decade, the Soviet Union and the United States battered Venus with probes.

They dispatched 21 unmanned missions, nearly all of them struck by failures at launch or in the final approach, before in 1970 the Soviet scout Venera 7 made the first successful landing.

If Venus was ever Earth's sister, it was of the sick and twisted kind.

It hosts an atmosphere of carbon dioxide with a pressure 90 times that on Earth and a surface cooked to 457 degrees Celsius (855 degrees Fahrenheit).

"Any astronaut unlucky to land there would be simultaneously crushed, roasted, choked and dissolved," Britain's Royal Astronomical Society notes.

Those watching the Transit of Venus tomorrow should spare a thought for Guillaume le Gentil de la Galaisiere, whose life -- portrayed in a play by Canadian author Maureen

Hunter that has since been turned into an opera -- was cursed by the planet named after love.

Le Gentil became swept up in the 18th-century frenzy for the Transit of Venus, which occurs when Venus swings in front of the Sun, appearing through the telescope lens as an enigmatic spot.

Next Tuesday evening, skywatchers in North and Central America will enjoy the start of the 2012 Transit, which will end on Wednesday, more than six and a half hours later, visible from Europe, the Middle East and South Asia. The next time a Transit happens will be in December 2117.

As a Transit of Venus loomed in 1761, Britain and France -- at war at the time -- jousted for the glory of using the celestial alignment to resolve the greatest puzzle of the day: how far is Earth from the Sun?

By figuring this out, the size and the scale of the Solar System could at last be determined. How this could be done was proposed in 1716 by the great astronomer Edmund Halley, more famous today for the comet that bears his name.

The point was to measure very accurately, and from different locations on the Earth, the time it took Venus to cross the Sun.

Using triangulation, this would give the distance between Earth and Venus, and thereafter the gap between Venus and the Sun, using an equation on orbital mechanics drawn up by the German mathematician Johannes Kepler.

Hundreds of expeditions were dispatched around the world.

Among them was Le Gentil, who set out to observe the 1761 transit from Pondicherry, a French territory in southeastern India.

By the time Le Gentil arrived, Pondicherry had been seized by the British and his ship could not land. The French astronomer observed the transit from his vessel out at sea, but could not time it accurately because he had only a pendulum clock, which was affected by

the ship's rolling.

Knowing that the next transit was only eight years away, le Gentil decided to stay in Asia, exploring the coast of Madagascar as he whiled away the time.

As the 1769 event loomed, Le Gentil tried to record the transit from the Philippines, only to be rebuffed by the Spanish colonial authorities.

Eventually he decided to go back to Pondicherry, which by this time had returned to French ownership.

The morning of June 3 broke and disaster fell upon his head: clouds moved in and he could see nothing.

Driven almost insane by his luck, Le Gentil decided to return home, only to suffer a shipwreck and dysentery en route. And when he arrived back in France after 11 years away, he discovered that he had been declared dead.

His relatives had grabbed all his possessions, his seat at the Royal Academy of Sciences had been attributed to another - and his wife had married someone else.

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#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Killer whale
- 5. Whack
- 8. Fish-stick fish
- 11. Mahogany, e.g.
- 12. Retired
- 14. Scurry
- 15. TV actress
- Anderson
- 16. Coal source
- \_ de France
- 18. Conditions, as of sale
- 20. Cul-de-
- 22. Hawaiian
- island 23. Enjoys an ice
- cream cone 25. Raincoat, for
- short 26. Nile queen,
- for short 29. Slippery
- creatures Nouveau
- 32. Telephone
- greeting 34. Singer "King"
- Cole
- 35. Kudrow of "Friends"
- 37. "It was dream" (2 wds.)
- 38. "Sesame Street" network (abbr.)
- 39. Host Winfrey
- 41. Boxing outcomes (abbr.)
- 43. Approves "...I met a man who. there"
- 46. Boat paddle

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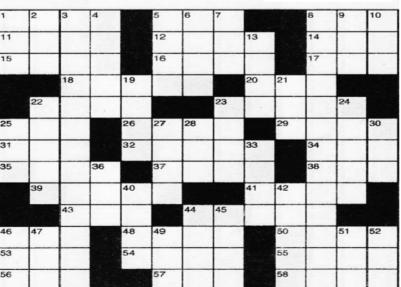
- 48. Showy flower
- 50. Page for viewpoints (hyph.)
- 53. New York
- time (abbr.)
- 54. Parent's sister
- 55. Tour de
- France need
- 56. Dweller
- (abbr.) \_ bag
- 58. Give the impression

#### DOWN

- Football and
- hockey, e.g.
- 1. Night bird
- 2. Kanga's baby

- (2 wds.) "Farewell, Fifi!"
- Soccer star
- Mia
- Egyptian bird
- Twice five
- TV dinner's kin (3 wds.)
- Fryer's need 10. Poor grade
- 13. TV's Arnaz
- Like Bill
- Gates 21. Crack aviator
- 22. Cuomo or Lanza
- Languish 24. Big chunks
- 25. Bad (prefix)
- 27. One of

- Jacob's wives
- 28. House annex
- 30. Holy ones (abbr.)
- 33. Munchies for Mr. Ed
- 36. Biblical
- vessel 40. Eastern
- continent 42. Door handles
- cellar "Thin Man"
- pooch
- 46. Above, in
- verse
- 47. Lemon drink
- 49. Tire track
- 51. Piece (out)
- 52. Obama's party (abbr.)



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	t	9	3	ς	I	7	L	8	6
	ç	1	8	Þ	6	9	1	ε	2
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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

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#### **Finance**

#### Greek euro exit not ruled out if **loan deal broken: France**

PARIS (AFP) - A Greek exit from the eurozone will be on the agenda if Athens fails to impose austerity measures required in its EU-IMF bailout deal, French Finance Minister Pierre Moscovici said Sunday.

"The question would be raised without a doubt.... if the Greeks themselves do not respect their commitments, Moscovici said on French television, adding that he hoped Greece would remain in the eurozone.

The French finance chief was responding to questions about comments made by Greece's radical leftist leader Alexis Tsipras who said Friday he wanted to scrap the bailout deal if he won the

June 17 elections.

Moscovici said that position would "greatly complicate" the situation and admitted that there was "perhaps reflections here and there" about the possibility of Greece leaving the eurozone.

Moscovici added would work to try to avoid that scenario from happening.

Tsipras's Syriza party surprised Europe on May 6 by placing second in an inconclusive election in which no party was able to either win an overall majority or broker a coalition government.

But voters fed up with salary and pension cuts shifted their loyalties to more radical parties.

A series of opinion polls published Friday showed that neither Syriza nor its main rival, the conservative New Democracy party, would win an outright majority in new elections called after last month's electoral deadlock.

The June 17 vote will determine whether Greece will meet the terms of a deal under which the European Union and International Monetary Fund agreed to lend it hundreds of billions of euros (dollars) in return for economic reforms.

#### **Monti says** eurobonds will come

ATHENS (AFP) - Italy's Prime Minister Mario Monti believes eurobonds, a contested tool proposed as a way of alleviating the eurozone crisis, will eventually become reality, he told a Greek newspaper Sunday.

"I believe we will have eurobonds is some form or other, because our (European) union is getting closer," Monti told To Vima, warning however they were not a "licence to spend" or an alternative to cutting debt.

In the same newspaper, however, German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle reiterated Berlin's opposition, saying eurobonds would "increase debt and reduce competitiveness.'

Underwritten by all eurozone countries, eurobonds would allow troubled members such as Greece to raise funds at much less painful interest rates than if they borrowed on their own. Backers include new French President François Hollande.

But German Chancellor Angela Merkel is opposed, seeing a risk that eurobonds would reduce the incentive to balance budgets and cut debt, while also pushing Germany's own borrowing costs higher.



Spanish PM tries to send

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### 'message of calm'

MADRID (AFP) - Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy tried to play down fears the country would need an international bailout, saying the country would eventually find its way out of the financial crisis on its own.

(per 10,000)

After a dismal week that saw the country's borrowing costs soar, Rajoy, speaking at an economic forum in Sitges in eastern Spain, Rajoy said he was sending a "message of calm".

"Spain is a very solid country, although right now, no one seems to remember this," he said.

Doubts about Spain's solvency rocked global markets this week and saw the interest rate on 10-year government bonds hit a record 5.48 percentage points on Friday, as Spanish markets slumped to lows not seen since April 2003.

But Rajoy insisted the country "will get through the storm through its own efforts and with the support of our European partners.

"Because what's at stake isn't just the economic future of Spain but the very future European monetary union.'

Rajoy's message echoes similar messages from the Spanish budget minister and other officials told reporters on Friday that the government was confident of the country's solvency.

In an interview with German magazine Der Spiegel German Chancellor Angela Merkel has said she doubts Spain has the resources to cope with its crisis. She has suggested the country should make use of European rescue funds.

Spain is the eurozone's fourth-largest economy and has been battered by a crash in the property market and record unemployment of about 25 percent.

#### **Tintin Art Sale Sets Record** With \$1.6 Million



PARIS (AFP) - A rare 1932 cover illustration of "Tintin in America" by Herge, the artist who dreamed up the boy re-

> SATURDAY'S **Crossword Answer**



porter, on Saturday fetched a record 1.3 million euros (\$1.6 million) at an auction in Paris.

"The work has been sold at 1,338,509.20 euros, costs included, by a person who wishes to remain anonymous," a spokesman for the auctioneers, Artcurial, told AFP.

The previous owner, another Tintin collector, had bought it for 764,218 euros in 2008, which had until today stood as the record price in this domain.

Belgian comic book artist Herge painted the Indian ink and gouache colour cover for the first edition of the book, which first appeared in 1934.

One of only five such works of cover art remaining by Herge, it shows the young adventurer dressed as a cowboy sitting on a rock, his dog Snowy at his side, as three Indians, two wielding axes, creep up behind him.

The sale Saturday was part of a larger sale of Tintin-related memorabilia.

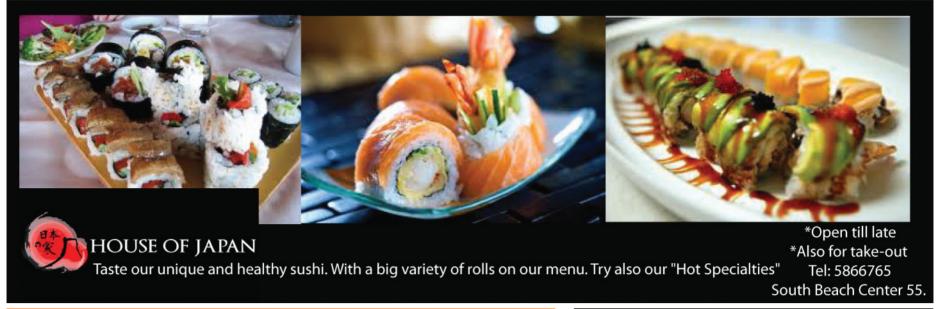


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### Britain's queen sails in 1,000-boat diamond jubilee flotilla





LONDON (AFP) - Queen Elizabeth II sailed Sunday on a ceremonial barge at the centre of a spectacular 1,000-boat river pageant on the Thames in the set-piece of celebrations marking her diamond jubilee.

The queen, dressed in a white hat and silver and white coat, was carried down the river on the red and gold barge, with an eclectic collection of boats of all shape and sizes following behind.

As the 86-year-old queen and her husband Prince Philip boarded the barge, the banks of the Thames were thronged with spectators and Union Jacks flew from the balconies of apartments packed with wellwishers.

The flotilla was led by a barge carrying eight bells which rang out to herald the passage of the queen's craft, followed by hundreds of row-

ing boats, cruisers and steam ships in the biggest pageant of its kind in 350 years.

The queen was ferried to the barge on the launch of the Royal Yacht Britannia, the ship she dearly loved which was decommissioned in 1997.

The heavy rain which had fallen through the night stopped as the queen boarded the Spirit of Chartwell, a converted sightseeing boat.

The monarch was accompanied by senior royals including Prince William and his wife Catherine, who wore a red Alexander McQueen dress, and heir-to-the-throne Prince Charles.

William, the second in line to the throne, and his brother Prince Harry, a fellow helicopter pilot, both wore military uniform.

Behind the queen's barge was massed a flotilla of steam-

ers and tugs, speedboats and historic vessels, including Dunkirk "little ships" that evacuated British forces from continental Europe in World War II.

The flotilla was led by the belfry barge, in front of Gloriana, which was rowed by quadruple Olympic gold medallist Steve Redgrave alongside injured servicemen.

While London was the focus of the celebrations, millions of people were holding street parties around Britain to mark the 60th year of the queen's reign.

Towns and villages were bedecked in red, white and blue bunting for an event that organisers dubbed "the Big Lunch" celebrating the queen's six decades on the throne.

Some diehard royal fans camped out overnight along the Thames and braved the rain which fell for much of the night to secure a good vantage point.

The celebrations come as the royal family enjoys its highest support for decades. That is especially true for the queen, who is only the second British monarch to celebrate a diamond jubilee, after queen Victoria in 1897.

A small group of antimonarchist protesters was booed and had their chants drowned out with renditions of "God Save The Queen" as they staged a demonstration along the route of the flotilla.

The four-day national diamond jubilee holiday began on Saturday with the queen indulging in her love of horse racing at the Epsom Derby horse race, where she was greeted by flag-waving crowds.

Todayy there will be a concert in the shadow of Buckingham Palace featuring Beatles star Paul McCartney and other top names, before the festivities culminate in the pomp and splendour of a ceremonial parade on Tuesday.

#### Fuze debuts on Aruba





The famed line of Fuze beverages, debuted on Aruba on Friday, May 25, with a refreshing ice tea which is produced and packaged on island at the Tropical Bottling Company plant in Balashi. Tropical Bottling is the official bottler and distributor of Coca Cola products on Aruba, and are proud to add Fuze Ice Tea to their roster. The light, not overly-sweet tea with a lemony tang is made without high fructose corn syrup, HFCS. The delightful new drink in the colorful cans was a hit with island media.

by Rosalie Klein

### Polish church urges Euro 2012 fans to stay sober

WARSAW (AFP) - Roman Catholic bishops in Poland are urging football fans to avoid alcohol during the 16-nation Euro 2012 football showcase co-hosted by Poland and Ukraine in June, a local press release said.

"Let's support the Polish team and others by staying sober! Let's show our guests that we are free people who know how to celebrate, have fun and enjoy a tournament without alcohol," the bishops' statement said.

It is to be read in churches across the predominantly Catholic nation, at a time when talk of hooliganism is rife ahead of the Euro-2012 launch on June 8 in Warsaw.

Police estimate there are around 5,000 hooligans active in Poland. Officials have long been accused of being soft on

hooligans, but have significantly upped a counter-hooliganism campaign in the run-up to the play-offs.

Last week 42 people, including hooligans, suspected of membership in criminal gangs and drug trafficking were arrested in a nation-wide police swoop.

The Catholic church announced an ecumenical mass for Euro 2012 on June 6 at Saint Florian's Cathedral in Warsaw. Masses in several national languages will be held at churches near the tournament stadiums until July 1.

Euro 2012 kicks off on June 8 and last for three weeks.

More than a million fans of the 16 participating nations in Europe's top football showcase are expected to flock into the region.

## Vatican publishes rules on spotting fake visionaries



VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Faced with modern-day claims of visions of the Virgin Mary and apparitions of long-dead saints, the Vatican published rules last week used by the Church to verify religious supernatural phenomena.

The criteria for judging presumed apparitions date to 1978, but are being published now after the rise of the Internet saw claims of visions spread quickly all around the world, drawing millions of cult followers.

The text, published on the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith website, lays out guidelines to help distinguish those who have experienced real apparitions from con artists seeking fame, or financial or sexual gain.

Whether the claims have any basis in reality is judged largely on the claimant's character, with "positive criteria" such as "honesty and rectitude of moral life" weighed against negative elements such as "a search for profit."

Bishops are warned against people who swear to have witnessed the supernatural but have "psychological disorders or psychopathic tendencies" or have committed "gravely immoral acts" during their vision.

One of the most famous cases currently being inspected by the Vatican is the supposed apparitions of the Virgin Mary to six local Catholics in Medjugorje, Bosnia, who claim she has been appearing to them once a month since childhood.

In 2009 Pope Benedict XVI defrocked Tomislav Vlasic, the visionaries' former "spiritual director", for mysticism, manipulation and exaggerating the claims -- as well as secretly fathering a child with a nun.

Religious history has no lack of self-proclaimed visionaries, some of whom go on to found cults or are later accused of using their status and power over their followers to sexually abuse children.

### Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready in-

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up

and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples.

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.



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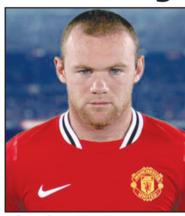




## EURO 2012 - POLAND - UKRAINE June 8 - July 1



### Rooney chasing redemption at Euro 2012



LONDON (AFP) - Wayne Rooney will set off on his latest bid for redemption at Euro 2012 uncomfortable in the knowledge that his campaign could be dead in the water before he has even kicked a ball.

bowed out in the quarter-finals. Despite the disappointment of defeat, Rooney's displays left many convinced that maybe, just maybe, the Three Lions had unearthed a player capable of leading them to the promised land of victory in a major tournament.

Fast forward eight years, and England fans are still waiting for Rooney to take a tournament by storm as he had once seemed destined to do, frustrated by a combination of injuries and poor form.

In 2006, Rooney's World Cup campaign in Germany was compromised by the curse of the metatarsal, a broken bone in his foot leaving him

quarter-finals when he was sent off against Portugal for a wild stamp on Ricardo Carvalho.

"Wayne Rooney is the golden boy of English football," outgoing England manager Sven-Goran Eriksson commented. "Don't kill him because you will need him."

Yet with England failing to qualify for Euro 2008, Rooney would have to wait two more years for the opportunity to shine in a major tournament.

The 2009/2010 season saw the Manchester United star in superb form for club and country, scoring regularly in the Champions League and revelling in his free role for Fabio Capello's England.

But Rooney's serene progress through the season was cruelly disrupted by an ankle injury suffered in March which again left him short of match sharpness as England headed to South Africa for the World Cup.

Rooney's performances at the World Cup were to become emblematic of England's illfated campaign as a whole. A player who had seemed full of impish craft and dexterity only months before was suddenly unable to trap a bag of cement.

The nadir came in England's abject 0-0 draw with Algeria in the group stage, when a frustrated Rooney hit out at fans who had booed the team's performance.

"Nice to see your own fans booing you," Rooney snarled into a television camera in relations disasters that dogged England.

Rooney's mystifying slump in South Africa may have been partially explained by the lurid headlines about his private life that emerged later that year as his unhappiness at Old Trafford became apparent.

With a new deal at Manchester United in the bag, and order apparently restored in his personal life, Rooney finished the 2010/2011 season strongly, helping United to a record 19th title before scoring a welltaken goal in the Champions League final defeat Barcelona at Wembley.

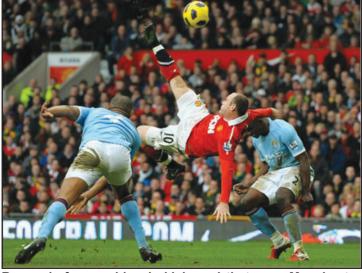
His contribution to England's Euro 2012 qualifying campaign was mixed however. Ill-discipline led to his suspension for the 2-2 draw with Switzerland in June 2011, but he returned in the autumn to score twice in the 3-0 away win over Bulgaria in Sofia.

However his campaign ended disastrously in England's final match against Montenegro, when a petulant kick aimed at Miodrag Dzudovic saw him deservedly sent off and hit with a three-match ban by UEFA.

Rooney's ban was later reduced to two matches on appeal, but the striker's moment of madness means that his Euro 2012 campaign is precariously balanced.

Rooney will not be eligible to make his entrance until the third and final group game against Ukraine in Donetsk on June 19, by which stage England could conceivably be out of the competition.

If England fail to get positive results against France and Sweden in their opening group games, the 26-year-old's wait for redemption at a major tournament will stretch further into the future.



Rooney's famous bicycle kick goal that gave Manchester United a 2-1 win against Manchester City in Febr. 2011

Eight years ago, a 17-yearold Rooney lit up Euro 2004 with a string of dazzling performances that earned him breathless comparisons to a youthful Pele before England

struggling for fitness as the tournament kicked off.

He returned to the starting line-up at the end of the group stage but an unhappy and goalwhat was one of several public less campaign ended in the



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### NBA: Thunder roll past Spurs to level series

will try to reassert themselves

when they host game five on

seven series advance to the

NBA Finals, where they will

play either Miami or Boston

business at home. Hopefully

we continue that trend," San

Antonio's Manu Ginobili said.

nine attempts from the floor in

the final quarter. In one five-

minute span he scored all 16 of

Oklahoma City's points --

helping them hold off a tena-

cious Spurs team that trailed

by as many as 15 points but

were down by just four mid-

Kendrick Perkins added 15

points with nine rebounds for

Oklahoma City, helping make

up for a lackluster night for

Russell Westbrook, who

scored just seven points on 2-

way through the fourth.

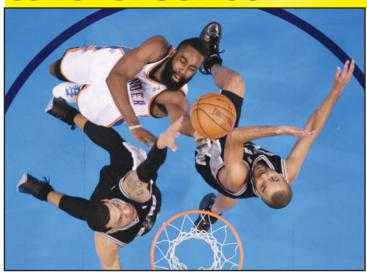
for-10 shooting.

Durant made seven of his

"Both teams took care of

for the championship.

The winners of the best-of-



James Harden #13 of the Oklahoma City Thunder goes up for a shot between Danny Green #4 and Tony Parker #9 of the San Antonio Spurs in the second half in Game Four.

Monday.

OKLAHOMA CITY (AFP) -Kevin Durant scored half of his 36 points in the fourth quarter Saturday as the Oklahoma City Thunder beat the San Antonio Spurs 109-103 to tie the NBA Western Conference Finals at two games apiece.

Defensive stalwart Serge Ibaka contributed some unexpected offence, scoring 26 points on perfect 11-for-11 shooting for the Thunder, who improved to 7-0 at home this post-season.

San Antonio, who won the first two games at home to stretch their winning streak to 20 straight contests before losing game three on Thursday,

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Tel: 588-9517 / Fax: 588-9518 E-mail: themorningnewsaruba@gmail.com Website: www.themorningnewsaruba.com Tim Duncan scored 21 points with eight rebounds for San Antonio.

Kawhi Leonard added 17 points, Ginobili scored 13 and Tony Parker and Boris Diaw chipped in 12 points apiece.

Ibaka's jump shot with 5 1/2 minutes left in the third quarter gave Oklahoma City their biggest lead of the night at 68-53.

San Antonio responded with an 18-2 scoring run, spearheaded by Ginobili. The Argentinian's three-pointer cut the deficit to 73-71 with 1:16 left in the third quarter.

Ibaka delivered the defensive play of the game in the final minute of the third.

San Antonio's DeJuan Blair cruised to the basket for what seemed like an inevitable fast-break dunk, but Ibaka raced in and smacked the ball away from behind to keep it 75-71 going into the final period.

Durant launched his fourthquarter outburst with a fadeaway jumper and finished with another jump shot with a minute and a half remaining.

He beat the Spurs with drives to the inside and crisp outside shots, and even an alley-oop lay-up off a pass from James Harden.

"I didn't tell myself that I need to go score, because what we were doing was working," Durant said. "We were passing the ball and guys were making shots.

"They went on a little run there. So I just wanted to stick with what we were doing. It started to open up for me, and I saw some lane -- that gave me some opportunities to make some shots."

### *Tennis:* French Open results



Australia's Samantha Stosur

PARIS (AFP) - Results from the eighth day of the 2012 French Open at Roland Garros on Sunday (x denotes seeded player):

Men -- 4th rd - Novak Djokovic (SRB x1) bt Andreas Seppi (ITA x22) 4-6, 6-7 (5/7), 6-3, 7-5, 6-3 while Roger Federer (SUI x3) bt David Goffin (BEL) 5-7, 7-5, 6-2, 6-4 Women -- 4th rd - Dominika Cibulkova (SVK x15) bt Victoria Azarenka (BLR x1) 6-2, 7-6 (7/4) while Samantha Stosur (AUS x6) bt Sloane Stephens (USA) 7-5, 6-4 while Sara Errani (ITA x21) bt Svetlana Kuznetsova (RUS x26) 6-0, 7-5 and Angelique Kerber (GER x10) bt Petra Martic (CRO) 6-3, 7-5

#### **MLB Standings** American League National League W L Pct GB W L Pct GB East BALTIMORE 30 23 .566 **WASHINGTON** 30 21 .588 **TAMPA** 30 23 .566 MIAMI 30 23 .566 1.0 28 24 .538 1.5 YANKEES NY METS 30 23 .566 1.0 28 25 .528 2.0 BOSTON ATLANTA 28 25 .528 3.0 27 26 .509 3.0 TORONTO PHILADELPHIA 28 26 .519 3.5 Central W L Pct GB Central W L Pct GB **CHICAGO** 30 23 .566 --30 22 .577 CINCINNATI **CLEVELAND** 28 24 .538 1.5 ST. LOUIS 27 26 .509 3.5 **DETROIT** 25 28 .472 5.0 PITTSBURG 26 26 .500 4.0 22 29 .431 7.0 24 29 .453 6.5 **KANSAS** MILWAUKEE 19 33 .365 10.5 **MINNESOTA** 22 31 .415 8.5 HOUSTON 18 34 .346 12.0 **CHICAGO** W L Pct GB West W L Pct GB 31 22 .585 TEXAS LA DODGERS 33 20 .623 28 26 .519 3.5 LA ANGELES SAN FRANCISCO 29 24 .547 4.0 24 31 .436 8.0 **SEATTLE** 24 29 .453 9.0 **ARIZONA** OAKLAND 23 30 .434 8.0 22 30 .423 10.5 **COLORADO** SAN DIEGO 18 36 .333 15.5 x-Clinched Playoff Spot; y-Division Champ



# NBA: Thunder roll past Spurs to level series



Manu Ginobili #20 of the San Antonio Spurs is called for a charge as he makes contact with Nick Collison #4 of the Oklahoma City Thunder in the second half in Game Four of the Western Conference Finals of the 2012 NBA Playoffs at Chesapeake Energy Arena on June 2, 2012 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

AFP/Photo

SEE STORY ON PAGE 15



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#### TEAM ARUBA SCORES FIRST FINAL ROUND AGAINST TIGHTEST XPS FIELD IN HISTORY

ST. LOUIS Team Aruba scored their first ever ADRL final round appearance at this past weekend's Gateway Drags. For this team that is always full of smiling faces, the grins were just a little bigger when racing was complete and celebration was underway:

"We couldn't be happier," told driver Trevor Eman. "It was awesome to finally be able to reach a final round. We've been working so hard these last couple of years, and to be able to get to this point is just very satisfying. To think that a Pro Stock team from the tiny paradise island of Aruba can make it to the finals between all these tough competitors is just amazing, and to have done it in the tightest qualified field in ADRL Extreme Pro Stock history is even more amazing."

This underdog team made it to the finals from a number nine qualified position, which they earned with a 4.077,

176MPH pass. The field, which Eman noted was one of the toughest in XPS history, was only separated by less than .08 from number one to number sixteen qualifiers (4.018 to 4.096).

In round one Eman took on past World Champion John Montecalvo. Eman was out of the gate first and when Montecalvo got loose, it was all Aruba for the win (.022, 4.134 at 174.93). Round two paired the Aruba.com, Alltel Wireless Mustang against another heavy hitter, Scot Hintz. Hintz is another XPS driver who can be tough on the startling line. However, Eman's .006 light put him out front by a couple hundredths. With that he was able to hold off Hintz's slightly quicker 4.125 with a 4.136 for the hole shot win.

Eman's day didn't get any easier as the team progressed through the rounds. The semi finals brought on competitor



David Schorr. This time it was the Jon Kaase engine power that scored the win for Aruba, Eman's 4.121 besting Schorr's 4.191. With that victory, Team Aruba scored their first ever trip to an ADRL final round, which would prove to be an historic one for XPS, as the other final round contender, Todd Hoerner, became the first ever fuel injected machine to make it to an XPS final round. Hoerner had been tough to beat all day and proved so again

against Team Aruba. Eman once again did his driving job with a .018 light to Hoerner's .046. But by the time the pair reached the 660ft mark, Hoerner was in front by .01. Team Aruba put out their quickest run of the day (4.116), but it was just shy of holding off Hoerner's 4.072.

"It was such a fun weekend," told Eman. "We have hoped for this day for a long time. This year got off to a slow start for us. It was discouraging, but this team didn't give up. They kept working hard and believing that we would see this day. We are happier than words can truly express.

"I know we had everybody at home in Aruba rooting for us," continued the elated Eman, "and to be able to represent our country with all the support of our fellow Arubans makes us very, very proud. Even though we couldn't have everybody from Aruba right here by our side, we sure did have all the support from the Broushard and Brawley family, together with many other close friends here in St. Louis. We could not have done this without the support of family and friends and an awesome team that puts a lot of hard work into this effort; and above all we couldn't do this without the great support we get from the fine people at Alltel Wireless and, of course, our country Aruba.'